

Remarks

Independent claims 1 and 25 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 102(b) based on Caren, U. S. Patent No. 6,321,531. Caren does not disclose that the secondary winding 1036 of the transformer 1022 has a universal winding configuration and does not disclose that the secondary winding 1036 is wound in sections. As such, Caren fails to anticipate the circuit of amended claim 1 including "a transformer including . . . a secondary winding . . . having a universal winding configuration and wound in sections," and the circuit of original claim 25 including "a transformer comprising . . . a secondary winding . . . wound in sections." Each of the universal winding configuration of the secondary winding and the sectioned configuration of the secondary winding (e.g., sections 32-2-1 to 32-2-n of Fig. 4 of present application) is useful to promote low capacitance in the secondary winding for production of a relatively high resonant frequency to generate an arc at the electrodes. Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1 and 25 as well as the dependent claims depending therefrom is requested.

Claims 8, 10, and 17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 7 and 16 are amended. New claims 49, 50, and 51 are added.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with reference to file 9501-73714.

Respectfully submitted,

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